

Let's get acquainted

by Ruby Compton

President Larry B. Duke of Heber East Stake, LDS Church, was born January 26, 1933 in Heber City, Utah to Seymour B. and Mary Ann Ludlow Duke. Larry, as we have called him for so many years that it is hard to be formal when referring to him, was the youngest of five children and from earliest years he has been a considerate, hard-working person, intent on doing his best for his neighbors and family.

Larry attended the North School and then the junior and senior high schools in the old Wasatch High from which he graduated in 1951. After graduation he went to Utah State, where he studied pre-dentistry; later, he transferred to the BYU where he continued with his pre-dentistry training until he was drafted into the U.S. Army in January 1953. During basic training he attended a clerk-typist school at Fort Ord, California.

While on leave, Larry B. Duke married Joan Kinsey, on May 26, 1954, in the LDS Temple in Salt Lake City. They lived in Stockton, California until he was honorably discharged from the army in January of 1955.

Larry returned to Heber and worked for the Utah National Guard for a few months; then he returned to the BYU and finished requirements for acceptance into dental school. He went to Northwestern Dental School in Chicago in the fall of 1957.

Their first child, Mark, was born in July of 1955 and was about two years old when they left for Chicago. Mary Anne was born December 23, 1959 in Chicago. Larry and Joan were active in the Logan Square Ward of Chicago, where Larry served as counselor on the bishopric of that ward for two years.

Following graduation in the summer of 1961, they moved back to Heber where Larry served the community and county as best he could. He was on the City Council for six years, was president of the Rotary Club, chairman of the county March of Dimes for five years, and was chairman of Wasatch District Boy Scouts for four or five years.

Larry was called to serve as bishop of Heber 1st Ward in May of 1971; he served in this position until he was released in July of 1976. He was called to serve as High Councilman until he was released in 1977 to become president of East Heber Stake, the position he now holds.

After returning to Heber, three more children were born. Laural was born on May 28, 1962. She is now a junior at BYU where she is studying speech pathology.



The Larry Duke Family

Robert L. was born November 4, 1964 and is a senior at Wasatch High. Steven Floyd was born on August 1, 1970—he is a student at Wasatch Middle School.

The oldest son, Mark, served a mission from August 1976 to January 1979 in New Zealand where he met a returned missionary, Kaye Kehoe, whose parents owned a large dairy farm on one of the islands of New Zealand. They were married in the LDS Temple in New Zealand in February of 1977. They now have four children. They lived in the USA while Mark got his education, then he was called by the LDS Church to return to New Zealand to be Director of Social Services for all of New Zealand.

Mary Anne was in college when she met and married Villame (William) Talemahamaha Taukiueva, a young man from Tonga. They have two sons. Tonga is a kingdom of thousands of large and small islands.

Joan Kinsey Duke was born in Heber to James Floyd and Viola Giles Kinsey. She was born on March 12, 1933. Joan attended Central Elementary School. When she went to junior and senior high, she met Larry as they belonged in the same classes.

While in high school, Joan was a popular accompanist for soloists and choruses and she was on the girls' basketball and tennis teams.

Joan K. Duke was accompanist for The Choralettes for two years and is a member of the East Heber 9th Ward Choir. She has been a ward organist in one position or another since she was 12 years old and played for the Second Ward

where she was raised.

She has been church organist while living in California and Chicago; and she has served as Primary president, counselor in Relief Society of her ward, and is presently on the Stake Board of Relief Society.

She has been active in the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, as the captain of the Sego Lily Camp. Joan is now serving as president of the American Legion Auxiliary, Post 23.

The hobbies of Larry and Joan are many! They like to go with the family waterskiing, boating, hunting and fishing.

Besides the family, they have taken three Navajo children into their home: Nelsonja Nesswood, Sharen Tossie and Brent Chase. Presently, Rick Klein, son of Richard K. Klein, is spending the winter with Larry and Joan as he wishes to graduate from Wasatch High School, in the spring of 1983, before joining his parents in Germany, where his father was recently called by the LDS Church to serve as president of the Hamburg, Germany LDS Mission. Larry and Joan are also sponsoring a Colorado missionary, Michael Schwarz, now filling a mission in Hawaii.

President Larry B. Duke has his home at 625 East 550 North, and owns the clinic at 160 South First West in Heber City.

The Dukes have managed things well for two young folks who had to plan and work to get the good things of life, and to pass part of their blessings on to others.

We wish all good things for them.

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